

Appl. No.: 09/848,519
Amdt. dated April 14, 2011
Reply to Decision on Appeal of March 22, 2011

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Reply is filed in response to the Decision on Appeal of the above-identified patent application, and more particularly in response to the new ground of rejection presented in the Decision on Appeal. Prior to the Decision on Appeal, pending Claims 1-6 and 15-20 stood finally rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter; and all of the pending claims, namely Claims 1-20, stood finally rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the publication Susann Wilkinson, *Evaluation Report for Grant #R13 HG00793-0142: Impact of Human Genome Initiative on Society: A Women's Study Approach* (hereinafter "Wilkinson"). In the Decision, the Board reversed the Examiner's rejection of the claims as being unpatentable over Wilkinson. But the Board entered a new rationale for the rejection of Claims 1-6 and 15-20 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter, and characterized their decision as new grounds of rejection of the respective method claims.

Applicant has amended various ones of Claims 1-6 and 15-20 to clarify the claimed invention, and thereby recite statutory subject matter. Applicant therefore submits that at least as amended, Claims 1-6 and 15-20 are directed to statutory subject matter. In view of the amendments to the claims and the remarks presented below, Applicant respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of all of the pending claims of the present application.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments to the claims and the remarks presented above, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. As such, the issuance of a Notice of Allowance is therefore respectfully requested. In order to expedite the examination of the present application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney in order to resolve any remaining issues.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,



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